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June 28, 2012

WASHINGTON – Congressman Charles F. Bass (NH-02) issued the following statement today after the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the majority of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Bass said:

"The Supreme Court ruled today that the President's health care law falls within the limits of our Constitution because the mandate is a new tax on the American people, but that does not mean that it is right for America.

"While the ruling addresses the constitutionality of the law, it still does not address the fact that this law was passed without bipartisan support and was rushed through without the input and support of the American people. As a result, we have been left with a law that, while constitutional, is bad public policy, and still lacks the backing of a majority of Americans. Individuals and families have only seen rising health care costs and government bureaucrats injected into personal decisions previously reserved for doctors, patients, and families. Seniors will see \$575 billion cut from Medicare and the dismantling of the popular Medicare Advantage program. The small business owners I have met have only told me about the uncertainty surrounding the law's mandates, how it is driving up costs, and making it harder for them to hire new workers.

"Even with this ruling, I believe we still must work to replace this law and truly address both cost and access to quality health care, and do it in a manner that allows for the input of the American people and takes into account ideas from both sides of the aisle. I will continue to support reforms that allow children to remain on their parents' policies until 26 years of age, and that protect those with pre-existing conditions.

"Health care coverage has become too expensive for too many people, but I am confident that working together we can fix health care and come up with reforms that all Americans support."

To read the Court's ruling, click here: <http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/11pdf/11-393c3a2.pdf>

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